

IN THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (original): An apparatus for training an animal in which an audible and a variable level electrical stimulation is applied to the animal, said apparatus comprising:

a transmitting unit sending a coded signal having an identification code, a stimulation type code, and a stimulation level code, said stimulation type code including a beep code and a shock code;

a receiver responsive to said coded signal from said transmitting unit;

a processor for decoding said coded signal;

a speaker producing a beep in response to said beep code, said speaker controlled by said processor;

a switch controlled by said processor in response to said shock code, said processor controlling a pulse stream applied to said switch, said pulse stream having a voltage level related to a value of said stimulation level code;

a transformer electrically connected to said switch, said transformer producing a stimulation pulse stream having a pulse voltage directly to said voltage level applied to said switch; and

at least one electrode electrically connected to said transformer and located proximal the animal;

whereby said animal is stimulated by said electrode when said electrode is energized by said transformer.

Claim 2 (original): The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said pulse stream has a fixed pulse width, a fixed pulse frequency, and a variable amplitude.

Claim 3 (original): The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said processor has a plurality of output connections that connect to a plurality of resistors that form a voltage divider network connected to said switch.

Claim 4 (original): The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said processor monitors said receiver for said coded signal, verifies said identification code, determines whether a beep is to be generated, determines whether a shock is to be generated, and generates control signals for a specified voltage level.

Claim 5 (original): The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said transmitting unit includes a beep switch, a shock switch, and a stimulation level switch.

Claim 6 (original): An apparatus for training an animal in which a variable level electrical stimulation is applied to the animal, said apparatus comprising:

a processor that monitors for a coded signal, verifies an identification code in said coded signal, determines whether an electrical stimulation is to be generated, and generates control signals for a specified voltage level;

a switch controlled by said processor, said processor controlling a voltage level applied to said switch;

a transformer electrically connected to said switch, said transformer producing a pulse having a pulse voltage directly related to said voltage level applied to said switch; and

at least one electrode electrically connected to said transformer and located proximal the animal;

whereby said animal is stimulated by said electrode when said electrode is energized by said transformer.

Claim 7 (original): The apparatus of Claim 6 wherein said processor determines whether a beep is to be generated and further including a speaker producing a beep, said speaker controlled by said processor.

Claim 8 (original): An apparatus for training an animal in which a variable level electrical stimulation is applied to the animal, said apparatus comprising:

a processor that monitors said receiver for a coded signal, verifies an identification code in said coded signal, determines whether an electrical stimulation is to be generated, and generates control signals for a specified stimulation level; and

a means for producing an electrical stimulation based on an output of said processor.

Claim 9 (original): The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein said means for producing said electrical stimulation includes producing a stream of pulses having a fixed pulse width, a fixed frequency, and a voltage level related to said specified stimulation level.

Claim 10 (original): The apparatus of Claim 8 wherein said processor determines whether a beep is to be generated and further including a speaker producing a beep and further including a means for producing a beep.

Claim 11 (original): An apparatus for training an animal in which a variable level electrical stimulation is applied to the animal, said apparatus comprising:

means for receiving a coded signal;

means for decoding said coded signal; and

a means for producing an electrical stimulation based on said coded signal.

Claim 12 (original): The apparatus of Claim 11 wherein said means for producing said electrical stimulation includes producing a stream of pulses having a fixed pulse width and frequency and a voltage level related to said specified stimulation level.

Claim 13 (original): The apparatus of Claim 11 further including a means for producing a beep.

Claim 14 (original): In an apparatus for training an animal in which audible and variable level electrical stimulation is applied to the animal, a memory medium comprising software programmed to provide for controlling the stimulation applied to the animal by a process comprising:

a) receiving an electronic signal representing a request message to stimulate the animal, said request message including an identification code and a stimulation level code;

b) determining whether an electrical stimulation is to be generated to stimulate the animal;

c) generating a first control signal corresponding to said stimulation level code; and

d) outputting said control signal to produce a signal having a voltage corresponding to said stimulation level code.

Claim 15 (Currently amended): The ~~method~~process of Claim 14 further including verifying said coded signal from said identification code.

Claim 16 (Currently amended): The ~~apparatus~~process of Claim 14 further including:

e) determining whether a beep is to be generated to stimulate the animal; and

f) generating a second control signal for operating a sound generating device;

Claim 17 (Currently amended): A method for training an animal in which audible and variable level electrical stimulation is applied to the animal, said method comprising:

a) monitoring for a coded signal representing a request message to stimulate the animal, said coded signal including an identification code and a stimulation level code;

b) determining whether an electrical stimulation is requested by said coded signal;

c) producing said audible stimulation if requested; and

d) producing an electrical stimulation signal applied to the animal if requested, said step of producing said electrical stimulation signal including a processor said electrical stimulation controlling a signal having a voltage level corresponding to said stimulation level code and said signal applied to a switch.

Claim 18 (original): The method of Claim 17 further including verifying said coded signal from said identification code.

Claim 19 (original): The method of Claim 17 further including the steps of:

d) determining whether an audible stimulation is requested by said coded signal; and

e) producing said audible stimulation if requested.

Claim 20 (Currently amended): The method of Claim 17 wherein said step of producing said electrical stimulation signal includes:

determining said voltage level corresponding to said stimulation level code;

generating an input pulse stream having a fixed pulse width, a fixed frequency, and a pulse voltage equal to said voltage level; and

producing a stimulation pulse stream from said input pulse stream.

Claim 21 (original): A method for training an animal in which audible and variable level electrical stimulation is applied to the animal, said method comprising:

a) monitoring for a coded signal representing a request message to stimulate the animal, said coded signal including an identification code and a stimulation level code;

- b) determining whether an electrical stimulation is requested; and
- c) if said electrical stimulation is requested:
 - c1) determining a voltage level corresponding to said stimulation level code;
 - c2) generating an input pulse stream having a fixed pulse width, a fixed frequency, and a pulse voltage equal to said voltage level;
 - c3) applying said input pulse stream to an output pulse generator;
 - c4) generating an output pulse stream from said input pulse stream; and
 - c4) making said output pulse stream available to the animal.

Claim 22 (original): The method of Claim 21 further including the steps of:

- d) determining whether an audible stimulation is requested; and
- e) producing said audible stimulation if requested; and

Claim 23 (original): The method of Claim 21 further including a step of verifying said coded signal from said identification code.

Claim 24 (original): The method of Claim 21 wherein said coded signal includes a stimulation type code.

Claim 25 (original): A method for training an animal in which audible and variable level electrical stimulation is applied to the animal, said method comprising:

- a) monitoring a receiver for a coded signal representing a request message to stimulate the animal, said coded signal including an identification code and a stimulation level code;
- b) if an electrical stimulation is requested by said coded signal:
 - b1) determining a voltage level corresponding to said stimulation level code;

b2) applying to a switch an input pulse stream having a fixed pulse width, a fixed frequency, and a pulse voltage equal to said voltage level;

b3) switching a transformer to generate an output pulse stream from said input pulse stream; and

b4) making said output pulse stream available to the animal.

Claim 26 (original): The method of Claim 25 further including the step of:

c) controlling an audible device if an audible stimulation is requested by said coded signal.

Claim 27 (original): The method of Claim 25 wherein said coded signal includes a stimulation type code.

Claim 28 (original): The method of Claim 25 further including a step of verifying said coded signal from said identification code.